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MEMORANDUM FOR:

*discussed Oct 7*

SUBJECT: CIA Staff Intelligence Status Report, 1 Oct 1948

REFERENCE: CIA Staff Intelligence Status Report, 1 Oct 1948

1. You tell me that your office is called Staff Intelligence to differentiate it from the Basic Intelligence Group, the Current Intelligence Group, and the Global Survey Group; however, your report goes outside CIA, so we think you should not use the words "staff intelligence", as they are mentioned in NSCID 3 and defined.

2. In accordance with the act and NSCID 3, the only intelligence produced by CIA is national intelligence. Staff intelligence is used by the armed services as part of their departmental intelligence, but CIA practically never needs such intelligence. I suppose if you produced something for OSO, only, within CIA, that might be staff intelligence, but practically all of your production goes outside CIA. Under the act and NSCID 3 everyone expects it to be national intelligence and if it has not been correlated with the pertinent IAC agencies, it should carry a notation to that effect.

PART II

*was drafted before this*

3. Furthermore, we think you should stick closely to NSCID 3, le (2)-(3) and to DCI 3/1, which you will recall was issued at your request. Paragraph 3d and e cover urgent matters.

4. We note in your October 1 report that you call some of the urgent and special requests "intelligence memoranda," as opposed to "published reports." We think this is evading the issue, and that these intelligence memoranda are national intelligence estimates, if they are not national intelligence reports. You will note in paragraph 3d of DCI 3/1 that it was stated: "Central Intelligence Agency will, at the earliest opportunity, notify the departments that it is undertaking an urgent project." "Project" is spelled with a small "p". Also, you will note under paragraph 3e, that "most urgent reports and estimates," are spelled with small letters.

*Subsequent talk with Mr. Babbitt indicates that there are no more for, or at request of A C I. This is as listed in future.*

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5. The fact that you now call some of your production "intelligence memoranda," instead of "estimates," does not relieve you of the responsibility for following the agreed inter-departmental procedure, which was, as you recall, set up at your request, to "grease the wheels of progress."

6. Another point that concerns us, is the restricted distribution of some of the things you produce. I should think you would have to follow section 3e of DCI 3/1, and that this should certainly be done when the subject is within the dominant interest of a department, as outlined at the end of NSCID 3. This provides for the free flow of information within the IAC agencies, which has been repeatedly stated in the NSCIDs.

7. The other question that disturbs us is the statement that the Joint Staff has requested you to produce certain things, without referring them to the State Department, even though the subject matter is within the dominant interest of that department. In such cases, if we followed the letter and spirit of the law and regulations, I should think the Joint Staff would be informed that it should obtain that information from the department concerned; i.e.; certainly the State Department knows more about the political situation, and the Navy Department more about a foreign fleet than any other sources in Washington. There are, of course, many less clear-cut cases. However, if the Joint Intelligence Group requests information from CIA, I think it expects to get the normal CIA information; i.e.; correlated intelligence from the different IAC agencies.

PRESGOTT CHILDS  
Chief, ICAPS

With regard to the JIG requests, I think you will find that the JIG has no objection to your informing State "at the earliest opportunity", and, when you start working on a subject, not ex post facto in a monthly report, the title of the item you are working on. Your client need not be mentioned, but merely the subject.

PC/mef